REMARKS

In accordance with the Examiner's request, Applicants have replaced the Abstract of the Disclosure. Additionally, Applicants have modified claim 2 in order to overcome the Examiner's objections. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw these objections.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the prior art rejections set forth by the Examiner under 35 USC sections 102 and 103. Applicants respectfully submit that the prior art cited by the Examiner, whether considered alone or in combination fail to either teach or suggest the presently claimed invention.

More specifically, Applicants note that the claimed invention is directed to a computer-implemented method for creating a three-dimensional navigation mechanism to navigate a virtual three-dimensional space wherein information obtained from a uniform resource locator is converted into at least one texture and mapping the at least one texture on a geometric surface which is used in forming the three-dimensional navigation mechanism. See for example claims 1, 6 and 9. Alternatively, claim 2 describes the invention as a method for interacting with an image created from a uniform resource locator on a geometric surface in a virtual three-dimensional space. Claim 2 requires intercepting at least one event associated with an image created from information obtained from the uniform resource locator and locating the geometric surface in the virtual three-dimensional space associated with the at least one event and

also computing a position of the geometric surface on the three-dimensional object in the virtual three-dimensional space.

Applicants submit that the references of record fail to either teach or suggest the innovations disclosed and claimed in the instant application. More specifically, the Marrin reference is merely directed to a system that allows users to follow a link associated with an object. As described by this reference, a specially designed programming language VRML is used in order to provide the links. See column 8 lines 38-45.

In contrast with the prior art, the claimed invention is directed to a computer-implemented method for creating a three-dimensional navigation mechanism to navigate a virtual three-dimensional space wherein information obtained from a uniform resource locator is converted into at least one texture and mapping the at least one texture on a geometric surface which is used in forming the three-dimensional navigation mechanism. See specifically, claim 1. Claim 1 thus describes a very particular manner in which to associate a link in a three-dimensional space with an object. Actually the Marrin reference appears to be silent on this point and merely describes the use of a special programming language for creating the links associated with objects. The requisite teaching or suggestion of the claimed subject matter is thus lacking and therefore the rejections of any claims with these limitations are improper.

Furthermore, the subject matter described in claim 2 is similarly absent from the cited references. As noted above, claim 2 describes the invention as a method for interacting with an image created from a uniform resource locator on a geometric surface in a virtual three-

dimensional space. Claim 2 requires intercepting at least one event associated with an image created from information obtained from the uniform resource locator and locating the geometric surface in the virtual three-dimensional space associated with the at least one event and also computing a position of the geometric surface on the three-dimensional object in the virtual three-dimensional space. The references are completely silent as to the limitations specified in the claims. Marrin merely notes that a special programming language is used to generate links but provides no specific disclosure of the subject matter described in claim 2.

In responding to the Examiner's rejections and identifying the deficiencies therein, Applicants have focused on the limitations in claims 1 and 2 because corresponding limitations are either found directly in the remaining independent claims or they are inherently present in any dependent claims. Accordingly, in light of the foregoing, Applicants submit that all claims now stand in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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